PUBLIC NOTICE

PERMIT APPLICATION NUMBER: NRS 07.385

APPLICANT: Tennessee Department of Transportation

Environmental Division

Suite 900, James K. Polk Building

505 Deaderick Street

Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0338

615-253-2477

LOCATION: The proposed alterations are located along Old Fifteenth Road from L.M. 9.04 of Gulf Fork Big Creek to L.M. 9.52, in Cocke County, Tennessee. (Lat: 35.8629°, Long: -83.1049°)

WATERSHED DESCRIPTION: The aquatic resources proposed to be altered are within the Pigeon Watershed (HUC 06010106). The resources are Gulf Fork Big Creek (STR-1), and two unnamed tributaries to Gulf Fork Big Creek (STR-2 and STR-3).

Gulf Fork Big Creek (STR-1) at the project location is a perennial stream with a channel bottom width of approximately 45 ft., top of bank width of approximately 55-60 ft., and an approximate bank height of 4-6 ft. Gulf Fork Big Creek has been assessed and supports the following uses: Fish and Aquatic Life, Recreation, Irrigation, and Livestock Watering and Wildlife.

One of the two unnamed tributaries to Gulf Fork Big Creek (STR-2) at the project location is a perennial stream with a channel bottom width of approximately 2 ft., top of bank width of approximately 6 ft., and an approximate bank height of 3-4 ft. This unnamed tributary to Gulf Fork Big Creek has been observed but not assessed.

The other unnamed tributary to Gulf Fork Big Creek (STR-3) at the project location is a perennial stream with a channel bottom width of approximately 12 inches, top of bank width of approximately 3 ft., and an approximate bank height of 1 ft. This unnamed tributary to Gulf Fork Big Creek has been observed but not assessed.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant proposes to replace three bridge structures over Gulf Fork Big Creek along Old Fifteenth Road, and by doing so, will realign and encapsulate a portion of two unnamed tributaries to Gulf Fork Big Creek. The applicant proposes the following impacts to aquatic resources:

- The applicant proposes to remove and replace the existing steel I-beam bridge structure over Gulf Fork Big Creek at L.M. 9.04 with a 34 ft. reinforced concrete slab bridge and associated rip-rap.
- The applicant proposes to remove and replace the existing steel I-beam bridge structure over Gulf Fork Big Creek at L.M. 9.26 with a 61 ft. reinforced concrete slab bridge and associated rip-rap.
- The applicant proposes to remove and replace the existing steel I-beam bridge structure over Gulf Fork Big Creek at L.M. 9.52 with a 49 ft. reinforced concrete slab bridge and associated rip-rap.
- The applicant proposes to relocate an unnamed tributary to Gulf Fork Big Creek (STR-2) approximately 50 ft. to the east, and by doing so, encapsulate approximately 20 ft. of stream. Additionally, the applicant proposes to construct an approximately 163 ft. rip-rap lined open channel.

• The applicant proposes to relocate an unnamed tributary to Gulf Fork Big Creek (STR-3) approximately 50 ft. to the west, and construct an approximately 209 ft. rip-rap lined open channel.

The applicant has proposed to provide compensatory mitigation by payment to the Tennessee Stream Mitigation Program (TSMP). A total payment of \$55,800 would be made to the TSMP.

PERMIT COORDINATOR: Chip Hannah

USGS TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE: Waterville, TN Quadrangle 173 – SE

No decision has been made whether to issue or deny this permit. The purpose of this notice is to inform interested parties of this permit application and to ask for comments and information necessary to determine possible impacts to water quality. Persons wishing to comment on the proposal are invited to submit written comments to the department. Written comments must be received within THIRTY (30) DAYS of the date that this notice is posted. Comments will become part of the record and will be considered in the final decision. The applicant's name and permit number should be referenced.

Interested persons may also request in writing that the department hold a public hearing on this application. The request must be filed within the comment period, indicate the interest of the person requesting it, the reasons that the hearing is warranted, and the water quality issues being raised. When there is sufficient public interest in water quality issues, the department will hold a public hearing.

The permit application, supporting documentation including detailed plans and maps, and related comments are available at the department's address for review and/or copying. The department's address is:

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
Division of Water Pollution Control, Natural Resources Section
7th Floor L & C Annex
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243

In deciding whether to issue or deny a permit, the department will consider all comments on record and the requirements of applicable federal and state laws.





